

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application, in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks and arguments, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-17, 24-37, 39-49, 51 and 53-74 are currently pending in this application, and the Examiner's allowance of Claims 1-9, 12, 17, 24-37, 40-49, 53-59, 61-63, 68, 69 and 71-74 is noted with appreciation. By the foregoing amendment Claims 10, 39, 51, 60, 64 and 70 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, Claims 1-9, 11-17, 24-37, 40-49, 53-59, 61-63, 65-69 and 71-74 remain in this application for consideration and allowance.

Claims 11, 13-16 and 65-67 (all of which are dependent claims) currently stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 4,739,325 to MacLeod in view of More (EP 0 200 535 A2). By the foregoing amendment this rejection has been overcome by revising Claims 11 and 13-16 so that they now depend from allowed Claim 17, and by revising Claims 65 and 67 so that Claims 65-67 all depend from allowed Claim 68.

In view of the foregoing amendment, remarks and arguments, all of the claims currently pending in this application are now seen to be in a condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance of Claims 1-9, 11-17, 24-37, 40-49, 53-59, 61-63, 65-69 and 71-74 is therefore earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is hereby requested to telephone the undersigned attorney of record at 972/516-0030 if such would further or expedite the prosecution of the instant application.

Respectfully submitted,

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on

May 17, 2004
